

**CLAIM VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

*In the claims:*

The following claims are amended:

20. (Amended) A method for amplifying a DNA, comprising the steps of

(a) preparing a cDNA comprising at least one of nucleotide analogs by a reverse transcription reaction in the presence of the at least one of nucleotide analogs using an RNA as a template; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the cDNA obtained in the above step (a), in the presence of two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs, wherein at least one nucleotide analog is incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dGTP or dCTP and at least one nucleotide analog is incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dATP or dTTP, wherein the nucleotide analogs are uniformly incorporated into the resulting DNA and do not cause termination of the amplification, thereby selectively amplifying DNA of a target sequence derived from RNA.

23. (Amended) A method for amplifying a DNA, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a template DNA comprising a nucleotide analog; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the template DNA of step (a) in the presence of the following substances (i) to (iii):

- (i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dGTP or dCTP,
- (ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dATP or dTTP, and
- (iii) a compound for lowering the  $T_m$  value of a double-stranded nucleic acid,

wherein the nucleotide analogs (i) and (ii) are uniformly incorporated into the resulting DNA and do not cause termination of the amplification.

27. (Amended) A method for amplifying a DNA comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing a cDNA by a reverse transcription reaction in the presence of at least one nucleotide analog using RNA as a template; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the cDNA of the above step (a) in the presence of the following substances (i) to (iii):

(i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dGTP or dCTP,

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dATP or dTTP, and

(iii) a compound for lowering the  $T_m$  value of a double-stranded nucleic acid, wherein the nucleotide analogs (i) and (ii) are uniformly incorporated into the resulting DNA and do not cause termination of the amplification,

thereby selectively amplifying DNA of a target sequence derived from RNA.

31. (Amended) A kit for amplifying a DNA in the presence of a nucleotide analog by the use of a DNA fragment comprising at least one nucleotide analog as a template, comprising two or more nucleotide analogs, wherein the two or more nucleotide analogs are:

(i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dGTP or dCTP, and

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dATP or dTTP, and

wherein the nucleotide analogs do not cause termination of the DNA amplification.

34. (Amended) A kit for amplifying a DNA in the presence of at least one nucleotide analog by the use of a template DNA fragment comprising nucleotide analogs, comprising two or more nucleotide analogs and a compound for lowering the  $T_m$  value of a double-stranded nucleic acid,

wherein the two or more nucleotide analogs are:

(i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dGTP or dCTP, and

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dATP or dTTP, and

wherein the nucleotide analogs do not cause termination of the DNA amplification.

Claims 40 and 41 are added.